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MC

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
09/105,150	06/26/98	DONFRANCESCO	A 36087

MARK S BICKS
DOYLANCE ABRAMS BERDO & GOODMAN
SUITE 315
1225 CONNECTICUT AVENUE NW
WASHINGTON DC 20036-2680

MM42/1028

EXAMINER

NGANDJUI, A

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2833

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DATE MAILED: 10/28/99

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or
proceeding.

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Office Action Summary

Application No.
09/105,150

Applicant(s)
Angelo T. Donfrancesco et al.

Examiner
Antoine Ngandjui

Group Art Unit
2833



☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on Aug 24, 1999

☒ This action is **FINAL**.

☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11; 453 O.G. 213.

A shortened statutory period for response to this action is set to expire 3 month(s), or thirty days, whichever is longer, from the mailing date of this communication. Failure to respond within the period for response will cause the application to become abandoned. (35 U.S.C. § 133). Extensions of time may be obtained under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a).

Disposition of Claims

☒ Claim(s) 1, 4-16, and 18 is/are pending in the application.

Of the above, claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

☒ Claim(s) 1, 4-16, and 18 is/are rejected.

☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

☐ Claims _____ are subject to restriction or election requirement.

Application Papers

☐ See the attached Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948.

☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are objected to by the Examiner.

☐ The proposed drawing correction, filed on _____ is ☐ approved ☐ disapproved.

☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d).

☐ All ☐ Some* ☐ None of the CERTIFIED copies of the priority documents have been

☐ received.

☐ received in Application No. (Series Code/Serial Number) _____

☐ received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

*Certified copies not received: _____

☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e).

Attachment(s)

☒ Notice of References Cited, PTO-892

☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s), PTO-1449, Paper No(s). _____

☐ Interview Summary, PTO-413

☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948

☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application, PTO-152

--- SEE OFFICE ACTION ON THE FOLLOWING PAGES ---

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DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. Claims 1, 4-16, 18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Balint in view of Examiner official notice.

Balint discloses substantially the invention as claimed. Balint does not disclose a deformation being a stake. However, it is a well known expedient to strike the end of a screw in order to core the bottom of the screw to prevent it to backing up.

In regard to claims 1, 11, and 16, J. Balint discloses in figure 2, a terminal assembly, comprising: a terminal base 3 having a bore 5 with an internal thread 6, a screw X (see attachment A, figure 2) having a shank 8 with opposite first and second ends and with an external thread Y (see attachment A, figure 2), and having a head 39 on a first end of a shank, and a deformation 35 in a portion of an external thread.

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In regard to claim 4, J. Balint discloses in figure 2, a shank which is offset from a longitudinal axis.

In regard to claim 5, J. Balint discloses in figure 2, a portion of an external thread forming the deformation which has a reduced width between adjacent crests.

In regard to claims 6, and 12, J. Balint discloses in figure 5, a backing plate 4 which has a central aperture 7.

In regard to claims 7, and 13, J. Balint discloses in figure 2, a backing plate which comprises a depending tab 13, and a terminal base which comprises an opening 2.

In regard to claims 8, and 14, J. Balint discloses in figure 2, a backing plate which comprises depending first and second tabs on opposite side edges, and the terminal base which comprises first and second openings.

In regard to claims 9, and 15, J. Balint discloses in figure 2, a terminal base which comprises a contact 41 extending therefrom.

In regard to claim 10, J. Balint discloses in figure 4, an external thread which has an axial length sustaining greater than an axial length of an internal thread.

In regard to claim 18, J. Balint discloses in figure 4, a shank which is placed within a central aperture of a backing plate before being threaded into the bore.

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Response to Arguments

3. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1, 11, 16 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

4. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

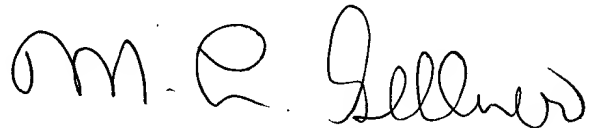
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Antoine Ngandjui whose telephone number is (703) 305-0069. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday from 7:30 A.M. to 5:00 P.M..

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The examiner can also be reached on alternate Fridays.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Paula Bradley, can be reached on (703) 308-2319. The fax phone number for this Group is (703) 305-3432.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-1782.



Michael L. Gellner
Supervisory Patent Examiner
Technology Center 2800

AN

October 23, 1999